

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
Maquoketa, Iowa

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2008

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**MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
UTILITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
December 31, 2008**

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Term Expires</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Bob Gavin | Chairman | December 2009 |
| Ron Frandsen | Board Member | December 2009 |
| Susan Croatt | Secretary | December 2011 |
| Ron Snell | Board Member | December 2013 |
| Kevin Sohl | Board Member | December 2013 |

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Utility Board of Trustees
Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility
Maquoketa, Iowa

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the business type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility, a component unit of the City of Maquoketa, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008, which collectively comprise the Utility's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of Utility officials. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards and provisions require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

As described in Note 1, these financial statements were prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash basis financial position of the business type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility as of December 31, 2008, and the respective changes in cash basis financial position for the year then ended in conformity with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 17, 2009, on our consideration of the Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages 4 through 11 and on page 21 are not required parts of the basic financial statements, but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United State of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility. The combining nonmajor fund financial statements and schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not required parts of the basic financial statements. The combining nonmajor fund financial statements and schedules have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Miner, Gihon & Meade
Certified Public Accountants, PC

Maquoketa, Iowa
March 17, 2009

**MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
December 31, 2008**

I. INTRODUCTION

This management discussion and analysis (MD&A) of Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility's (MMEU) financial performance provides an overview of MMEU's financial activities for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2008. The information in this MD&A should be considered in conjunction with the financial statements that follow this section.

II. OVERVIEW OF BUSINESS

The City of Maquoketa established a municipal electric utility in 1919 in order to provide electricity to the City's streetlights. When it became apparent to local residents, that the City could also provide electricity to homes and businesses, the municipal electric utility was expanded and more generating units were added at its power plant. The City's electric utility actually operated for many years in direct competition with a private electric company until 1984 when the City purchased the Maquoketa assets and property of the Iowa Electric Light and Power Company. The two electric systems were eventually combined into one system.

The Maquoketa City Council and the Maquoketa City Managers were responsible for the oversight and administration of the municipal electric utility until 1985. The Maquoketa voters established an independent Board of Trustees to oversee the municipal electric utility on November 5, 1985. The utility was officially named Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility (MMEU), and a Utility Manager was hired by the Board of Trustees to manage the electric utility.

III. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF UTILITY OPERATIONS

Governance of MMEU is now vested in a five-member Board appointed by the Mayor of Maquoketa with approval of the City Council. Members of the board of Trustees serve for six-year staggered terms. The Board has complete control of MMEU management and employs 21 full-time employees. MMEU's administrative office is located at City Hall.

MMEU has expanded over the years and currently provides electric service to virtually all parts of Maquoketa and some rural areas to the south of Maquoketa. MMEU presently serves approximately 2,863 residential customers, 576 commercial customers and 10 industrial customers.

MMEU owns distribution lines and transmission lines. MMEU owns and operates two power plants. Plant 1, or the original plant built in 1919, is on the north side of the City, and presently has the capacity to generate 25,450 kWh of power. Plant 2 was built in the City's South Industrial Park along U.S. Highway 61 on the City's south side. Plant 2 has the capacity to generate 5,000 kWh of power. The generating units at Plant 1 can operate on either diesel fuel or natural gas, and the units at Plant 2 operate on diesel fuel only. Plants 1 and 2 generated 1,209,100 kWh of power in 2008 or about 1.6% of the total power needs of the City.

**MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
December 31, 2008**

When diesel fuel prices substantially increased in the 1970's, it became more cost effective for the City to purchase electric power at a wholesale rate from private companies that operated coal-fired and nuclear power plants. The City also joined a consortium of other municipally owned electric utilities known as the Resale Power Group of Iowa (R.P.G.I.) in the 1970's. The R.P.G.I. negotiates the contracts for wholesale electric power from private electric companies on behalf of its member utilities. MMEU signed a five-year agreement for the purchase of wholesale electric power with the R.P.G.I. in late 2003 that became effective on January 1, 2004. The R.P.G.I. in turn has a contract with Ameren Energy, Inc. for wholesale electric power for the participants or members of the R.P.G.I. In 2008, MMEU purchased 77,400,999 kWh or 98.4% of its power needs from Ameren Energy through the R.P.G.I. contract.

IV. OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This MD&A serves as an introduction to the financial statements and represents management's examination and analysis of MMEU's financial condition and performance. The financial statements contain information about MMEU based on cash accounting methods as utilized by similar entities in the private sector.

The statement of cash receipts, disbursements, and changes in cash balances presents the results of MMEU's receipts and disbursements over the course of the calendar year and provides information about MMEU's recovery of costs. Electric rates are established by the Board of Trustees and are based on MMEU's Cost of Service Study. The Cost of Service Study estimates annual revenue requirements through an analysis of operational and maintenance expenses, debt service requirements, anticipated capital needs, and return on capital. The study provides a core of information not only for the trustees and staff at MMEU, but also for the customers ultimately affected by the Board's decisions.

The notes to the financial statements provide required disclosures and other information that are essential to a full understanding of data provided in the statements. The notes supplement the financial statements by presenting information about MMEU's accounting policies, significant account balances and activities, material risks, obligations and commitments.

V. MMEU/CITY AGREEMENTS

Although MMEU operates as an independent department of the City of Maquoketa, there is a written cooperative agreement between the City and MMEU that defines shared services and joint efforts. MMEU also provides water meter reading services to the City for \$0.35 per month per meter.

**MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
December 31, 2008**

VI. MMEU BUDGET AND RATES

MMEU has adopted a calendar year budget that reports on a cash basis. MMEU contracts with an electric consultant to perform a Cost of Service Study to assist the Board in rate setting policy. Latham & Associates, Inc. completed the most recent electric price design study on December 1, 2003.

The current electric structure went into effect on July 1, 2004. Monthly MMEU rates are as follows:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--|---------|
| Residential | | |
| Basic Service \$/Meter | | 10.00 |
| \$/KW: | | |
| \$/kWh 1 st 600 | | 0.0790 |
| \$/kWh over 600 & Elec Ht | | 0.0690 |
| SGS Non-Demand/Municipal | | |
| Basic Service \$/Meter: | | 20.00 |
| \$/KW | | |
| \$/kWh 1 st 4200 | | 0.0906 |
| \$kWh over 4200 & Elec Ht | | 0.0806 |
| LGS-50 Demand | | |
| Basic Service \$/Meter: | | |
| \$/KW | | 13.5164 |
| \$/kWh | | 0.0436 |
| LGS-2000 Demand | | |
| Basic Service \$/Meter: | | |
| \$/KW | | 13.5164 |
| \$/kWh | | 0.0356 |
| Security Lights | | |
| Basic Service \$/Meter: | | |
| 50 W HPS | | 6.75 |
| 100 W HPS | | 8.50 |
| 175 W HG | | 10.00 |
| 250 W HPS | | 14.00 |
| 400 W HPS | | 18.00 |
| 1000 W HPS | | 30.00 |

Sales by type of customer account are as follows:

| | <u>Accounts</u> | <u>kWh Sold</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Residential | 2,840 | 24,055,030 |
| Commercial SGS | 581 | 27,773,633 |
| Power LGS | 10 | 20,669,080 |
| Security Lights | 142 | 544,299 |

**MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
December 31, 2008**

VII. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

MMEU's total revenues decreased from \$7,826,315 in 2007 to \$7,794,857 in 2008, an decrease of 0.4%. The decrease in MMEU revenues was due largely to an decrease in interest earned on cash balances.

MMEU's total disbursements increased from \$8,189,057 in 2007 to \$8,872,217 in 2008, an increase of \$683,160. Although gas and oil costs used to generate power internally decreased \$461,926, the \$624,475 increase in power costs and \$410,173 WPPI deposit primarily accounted for the overall increase in total disbursements. Improvements consisting of the Sub I Transformer project totaled \$1,364,611 in 2008.

VIII. PROGRAM REVENUES

MMEU generated revenues from the following sources in 2007 and 2008:

| | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Charges for Services: | | |
| Residential | \$ 2,505,748 | \$ 2,478,884 |
| Commercial | 3,115,187 | 3,126,100 |
| Power Sales | 1,774,893 | 1,783,117 |
| Security Lights | <u>72,266</u> | <u>73,162</u> |
| | 7,468,094 | 7,461,263 |
| 2. Intergovernmental | - | - |
| 3. Use of Money/Property | 205,018 | 120,509 |
| 4. Miscellaneous | <u>153,203</u> | <u>213,085</u> |
| Total Revenues | <u><u>\$ 7,826,315</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 7,794,857</u></u> |

IX. PROGRAM EXPENSES

A comparison of MMEU 2007 and 2008 disbursements is as follows:

| | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| General Operating | \$ 7,291,047 | \$ 8,053,142 |
| Debt Service | <u>898,010</u> | <u>819,075</u> |
| Total | <u><u>\$ 8,189,057</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 8,872,217</u></u> |

The \$683,160 increase is due to the purchase of the sub I project transformer and replacement of FR3 oil in a transformer at plant one.

**MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
December 31, 2008**

X. MMEU CASH BALANCES OR ASSETS

MMEU operates on a cash basis accounting system using six funds. Almost all revenues are credited and expenses paid through the General Operating Fund. The Board authorized closing the Capital Projects fund this year. A comparison of the cash balances in the MMEU funds are as follows:

| <u>Fund</u> | <u>Balance 12/31/2007</u> | <u>Balance 12/31/2008</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. General Operating | \$ 2,927,286 | \$ 4,133,753 |
| 2. Capital Projects | 200,000 | - |
| 3. Electric Surplus | 171,500 | 171,500 |
| 4. Bond Sinking | 224,368 | 167,476 |
| 5. Bond Reserve | 716,500 | 492,500 |
| 6. Customer Deposits | 57,775 | 62,780 |
| Total | <u>\$ 4,297,429</u> | <u>\$ 5,028,009</u> |

The General Operating Fund is divided into eight accounts.

| <u>Account</u> | <u>Balance 12/31/2007</u> | <u>Balance 12/31/2008</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Operating Account | \$ 2,537,969 | \$ 2,847,374 |
| 2. Insurance Account | 61,872 | 65,872 |
| 3. Vehicle Reserve - Distribution | 229,318 | 210,143 |
| 4. Vehicle Reserve - Plant | 35,956 | 48,956 |
| 5. Power Requirements | - | 50,000 |
| 6. Heavy Equipment | 30,723 | 45,723 |
| 7. Sub I Improvement | 22,356 | 865,685 |
| 8. Fuel Tank Replacement | 9,092 | - |
| Total | <u>\$ 2,927,286</u> | <u>\$ 4,133,753</u> |

XI. CONDENSED REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGE IN CASH BALANCES

| | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Starting Cash Balance - All Funds | \$ 4,660,171 | \$ 4,297,429 |
| Total Revenues | 7,826,315 | 9,602,797 |
| Total Expenses | 8,189,057 | 8,872,217 |
| Ending Cash Balance - All Funds | <u>\$ 4,297,429</u> | <u>\$ 5,028,009</u> |

**MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
December 31, 2008**

XII. MMEU OUTSTANDING DEBT

The MMEU Board of Trustees issued \$3,570,000 in electric revenue notes on November 1, 2001 to finance additional electric generating units, and issued \$3,595,000 in electric revenue notes on May 1, 2002 to finance improvements to the electric distribution system and Power Plant 2.

On January 15, 2008, MMEU Board of Trustees issued \$4,925,000 in electric revenue notes, with a net interest cost of 4.089%, to advance refund the 2001 and 2002 notes and to partially finance the \$1,800,000 substation/switchgear project. Underwriting fees and other issuance costs were \$82,100. Proceeds of \$3,266,568 were used to purchase U.S. Government Securities and deposited in an irrevocable trust with an escrow agent. Subsequent debt service payments on the refunded notes were paid from the irrevocable trust. The outstanding balance of the revenue notes as of December 31, 2008 were as follows:

Series 2008 Electric Revenue Improvement & Refunding Bonds \$4,475,000

A comparison of the debt paid and outstanding balances for 2007 and 2008 is as follows:

| | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Starting Debt Balance | \$ 3,910,000 | \$ 3,195,000 |
| Debt Issued | - | 4,925,000 |
| Debt Retired | <u>(715,000)</u> | <u>(3,645,000)</u> |
| Ending Debt Balance | <u>\$ 3,195,000</u> | <u>\$ 4,475,000</u> |

XIII. SIGNIFICANT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

MMEU completed the following capital improvement project in 2008:

- Sub I transformer project

In addition to these improvements, the Board of Trustees pledged \$350,000 to the Area Recreation Center (ARC) in 2004. The third payment of \$70,000 was made during 2008.

**MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
December 31, 2008**

XIV. ANALYSIS OF OVERALL FINANCIAL POSITION

MMEU overall financial position increased by \$730,580 during 2008. This increase was due to addition bonds being issued and not all proceeds being spent during 2008.

XV. ANALYSIS OF BALANCES AND TRANSACTIONS

The net income was due to decreased fuel and other budgeted operating costs. In addition, the cost for the Sub I transformer came in under budget.

XVI. ANALYSIS OF VARIATIONS BETWEEN ORIGINAL AND FINAL BUDGET AMOUNTS

There was a relatively small difference between the MMEU original budget and the actual results.

| | <u>Amended Budget</u> | <u>Actual</u> |
|--------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| Expenditures | \$9,375,790 | \$8,872,217 |

The difference resulted from variations in the following items:

1. Administration
 - a. Use tax
 - b. Computer maintenance
 - c. Salaries and benefits
2. Power Plant
 - a. Utilities
3. Distribution
 - a. Gas and oil
 - b. Vehicle maintenance
 - c. Tools
 - d. Meters and equipment
 - e. Contract labor
 - f. Salaries and benefits
 - g. Mapping

**MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
December 31, 2008**

XVII. CURRENT KNOWN FACTS – EFFECT ON FINANCIAL POSITION

There are no known facts, decisions, or conditions that are expected to have a significant effect on MMEU's financial position. MMEU does not anticipate any significant changes in operating expenses, revenues, or net assets in 2009.

In 2008, MMEU completed the fifth and final year of the purchase power contract with R.P.G.I. MMEU has signed a long term power purchase agreement with WPPI (Wisconsin Public Power Incorporated) which will commence January 1, 2009 and remain in effect until December 31, 2037. The contract can be terminated by either party upon five year written notice by either party. While power costs will increase in the next year, the increases are considered reasonable and will be passed on to MMEU customers.

MMEU has recently completed some very comprehensive and significant capital improvement projects. MMEU will continue to make improvements to the distribution system. These improvements will be financed from the General Operating Fund without incurring additional debt.

As approved by the Board of Trustees in December 2007, the 2001-2002 bonds were refinanced during 2008 and became part of the Sub I Project.

XVIII. FINAL COMMENTS

This MD&A report was written to assist readers in understanding the results reported in the financial statements. It represents MMEU's effort to follow GASB Statement No. 34. The MD&A will be upgraded and improved each year in order to help the reader assess the financial condition of the Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN CASH BALANCES
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
As Of And For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

| | <u>Enterprise</u> |
|--|---------------------|
| Operating receipts: | |
| Charges for services | \$ 7,461,263 |
| Use of money and property | 120,509 |
| Miscellaneous | 213,085 |
| Total operating receipts | <u>7,794,857</u> |
| Operating disbursements: | |
| General: | |
| Power purchased | 3,308,996 |
| Employee expense | 1,095,889 |
| Contract labor | 30,693 |
| Repairs and maintenance | 405,889 |
| Supplies and services | 75,337 |
| Capital outlay | 1,496,749 |
| Sales and use tax | 264,830 |
| Gas and oil | 254,344 |
| Insurance | 321,154 |
| Franchise fee | 146,647 |
| Economic development | 110,239 |
| Energy conservation | 13,490 |
| Customer deposits | 29,141 |
| WPPI deposit | 410,173 |
| Utilities | 33,521 |
| Miscellaneous | 56,050 |
| Debt service: | |
| Bond principal payment | 674,000 |
| Interest | 145,075 |
| Total operating disbursements | <u>8,872,217</u> |
| Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements | (1,077,360) |
| Other financing sources (uses): | |
| Bond Proceeds | <u>1,807,940</u> |
| Net change in cash balances | 730,580 |
| Cash balances beginning of year | <u>4,297,429</u> |
| Cash balances end of year | <u>\$ 5,028,009</u> |
| Cash basis net assets | |
| Unrestricted | <u>\$ 5,028,009</u> |

These financial statements should be read only in connection with
the accompanying summary of significant accounting policies
and note to financial statements.

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN CASH BALANCES
PROPRIETARY FUNDS
As Of And For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

| | Enterprise Funds | | | Total |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| | General Operating | Bond Sinking | Nonmajor | |
| Operating receipts: | | | | |
| Charges for services | \$ 7,461,263 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 7,461,263 |
| Use of money and property | 119,733 | - | 776 | 120,509 |
| Miscellaneous | 179,715 | - | 33,370 | 213,085 |
| Total operating receipts | <u>7,760,711</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>34,146</u> | <u>7,794,857</u> |
| Operating disbursements: | | | | |
| Power purchased | 3,308,996 | - | - | 3,308,996 |
| Employee expense | 1,095,889 | - | - | 1,095,889 |
| Contract labor | 30,693 | - | - | 30,693 |
| Repairs and maintenance | 405,889 | - | - | 405,889 |
| Supplies and services | 75,337 | - | - | 75,337 |
| Capital outlay | 1,496,749 | - | - | 1,496,749 |
| Sales and use tax | 264,830 | - | - | 264,830 |
| Gas and oil | 254,344 | - | - | 254,344 |
| Insurance | 321,154 | - | - | 321,154 |
| Franchise fee | 146,647 | - | - | 146,647 |
| Economic development | 110,239 | - | - | 110,239 |
| Energy conservation | 13,490 | - | - | 13,490 |
| Customer deposits | - | - | 29,141 | 29,141 |
| WPPI deposit | - | - | 410,173 | 410,173 |
| Utilities | 33,521 | - | - | 33,521 |
| Miscellaneous | 56,050 | - | - | 56,050 |
| Debt service: | | | | |
| Bond principal payment | - | 450,000 | 224,000 | 674,000 |
| Interest | - | 145,075 | - | 145,075 |
| Total operating disbursements | <u>7,613,828</u> | <u>595,075</u> | <u>663,314</u> | <u>8,872,217</u> |
| Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements | <u>146,883</u> | <u>(595,075)</u> | <u>(629,168)</u> | <u>(1,077,360)</u> |
| Other financing sources (uses): | | | | |
| Bond Proceeds | 1,807,940 | - | - | 1,807,940 |
| Operating transfers in | - | 538,183 | 210,173 | 748,356 |
| Operating transfers out | (748,356) | - | - | (748,356) |
| Total other financing sources (uses) | <u>1,059,584</u> | <u>538,183</u> | <u>210,173</u> | <u>1,807,940</u> |
| Net change in cash balances | 1,206,467 | (56,892) | (418,995) | 730,580 |
| Cash balance beginning of year | <u>2,927,286</u> | <u>224,368</u> | <u>1,145,775</u> | <u>4,297,429</u> |
| Cash balance end of year | <u>\$ 4,133,753</u> | <u>\$ 167,476</u> | <u>\$ 726,780</u> | <u>\$ 5,028,009</u> |
| Cash basis net assets | | | | |
| Unrestricted | <u>\$ 4,133,753</u> | <u>\$ 167,476</u> | <u>\$ 726,780</u> | <u>\$ 5,028,009</u> |

These financial statements should be read only in connection with
the accompanying summary of significant accounting policies
and notes to financial statements.

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2008

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Reporting Entity

The financial statements include only the funds of the Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility (the Utility). The Utility has considered all potential component units for which it is financially accountable, and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the Utility are such that exclusion would cause the Utility's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and (1) the ability of the Utility to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on the Utility. Based on the above criteria, the Utility has determined that there are no potential component units which must be included in the Utility's financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008.

The Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility is includable as a component unit within the City of Maquoketa, Iowa, reporting entity because it has the potential to provide specific benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on the City of Maquoketa, Iowa.

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide Financial Statements - The Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Balances reports information on all of the activities of the Utility. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from this statement.

Net assets are reported in two categories:

Restricted net assets result when constraints placed on net asset use are either externally imposed or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net assets consist of net assets that do not meet the definition of the preceding category. Unrestricted net assets often have constraints on resources imposed by management, which can be removed or modified.

Fund Financial Statements - Separate financial statements are provided for proprietary funds. Major individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements. All remaining enterprise funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor enterprise funds.

The Utility reports the following major enterprise funds:

General Operating Fund

Receipts not allocated by law or contractual agreement to some other fund are accounted for in this fund. From the fund are paid the general operating disbursements, the fixed charges, and the capital improvement costs that are not paid from other funds.

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2008

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Bond Sinking Fund

This fund is used to accumulate funds which are used to make the regularly scheduled principal and interest payments on the revenue notes payable.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The Utility maintains its financial records on the cash basis for receipts and disbursements and the financial statements of the Utility are prepared on that basis. The cash basis of accounting does not report to accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued items. Accordingly, the financial statements do not present financial position and results of operations of the funds in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

In accordance with the Code of Iowa, the Utility Board of Trustees annually adopts a budget on the cash basis following required public notice and hearing for all funds. The annual budget may be amended during the year utilizing statutorily prescribed procedures.

NOTE 2 – DEPOSITS AND POOLED INVESTMENTS

The Utility's deposits in banks at December 31, 2008, were entirely covered by federal depository insurance or by the State Sinking Fund in accordance with Chapter 12C of the Code of Iowa. This chapter provides for additional assessments against the depositories to insure there will be no loss of public funds.

The Utility is authorized by state statute to invest public funds in obligations of the United States government, its agencies and instrumentalities; certificates of deposit or other evidences of deposit at federally insured depository institutions approved by the Utility Board of Trustees; prime eligible bankers acceptances; certain high rated commercial paper; perfected repurchase agreements; certain registered open-end management investment companies; certain joint investment trusts; and warrants or improvement certificates of a drainage district.

The Utility had investments in the Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust which are valued at an amortized cost of \$1,103,828 pursuant to Rule 2a-7 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and are not subject to risk categorization.

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2008

NOTE 3 – NOTES PAYABLE

Annual debt service requirements to maturity for revenue notes are as follows:

| <u>Year Ending December 31</u> | <u>Principal</u> | <u>Interest</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 2009 | \$ 430,000 | \$ 167,313 | \$ 597,313 |
| 2010 | 445,000 | 152,693 | 597,693 |
| 2011 | 460,000 | 137,563 | 597,563 |
| 2012 | 475,000 | 121,463 | 596,463 |
| 2013 | 495,000 | 104,363 | 599,363 |
| Thereafter | <u>2,170,000</u> | <u>220,637</u> | <u>2,390,637</u> |
| | <u>\$4,475,000</u> | <u>\$ 904,032</u> | <u>\$5,379,032</u> |

The resolutions providing for the issuance of the revenue notes include the following provisions:

- (a) The notes will only be redeemed from the net revenues of the Utility.
- (b) Establish an Electric Revenue Sinking Fund and make a monthly cash transfer equal to 1/6 of the interest coming due on the next succeeding interest payment date plus 1/12 of the principal coming due on the next succeeding principal payment date.
- (c) Establish a Surplus Fund into which there is to be set apart and paid all of the Net Revenues remaining after making the required payments into the Sinking Fund.
- (d) Establish rates to produce gross revenues sufficient to pay the expenses of operation and maintenance of the Utility, and leave a balance of net revenues sufficient to pay the annual installments of principal and interest on all outstanding notes.

The Utility is in compliance with the provisions noted above.

NOTE 4 – COMPENSATED ABSENCES

Utility employees accumulate vacation, sick leave, and compensatory time for subsequent use or for payment upon termination, retirement, or death. These accumulations are not recognized as disbursements by the Utility until used or paid. The Utility's approximate maximum liability for unrecognized accrued employee benefits is as follows:

| <u>Type of Benefit</u> | <u>Amount at December 31, 2008</u> |
|------------------------|--|
| Vacation | \$ 78,133 |
| Sick leave | 312,220 |
| Compensatory time | <u>2,178</u> |
| | <u>\$ 392,531</u> |

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2008

NOTE 5 – INTERFUND TRANSFERS

The detail of interfund transfers for the year ended December 31, 2008 is as follows:

| <u>Transfer To</u> | <u>Transfer From</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Bond Sinking | General Operating | \$ 538,183 |
| Capital Projects | General Operating | 210,173 |
| | | <u>\$ 748,356</u> |

The purpose of the transfer to the Bond Sinking Fund was to allocate amounts required for payments on revenue notes.

The purpose of the transfer to the Capital Project Fund was to set aside amounts to be used to pay the initial investment to WPPI for new power purchase contract.

NOTE 6 – PENSION AND RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The Utility contributes to the Iowa Public Employees Retirement System (IPERS) which is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the State of Iowa. IPERS provides retirement and death benefits which are established by state statute for plan members and beneficiaries. IPERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. The report may be obtained by writing to IPERS, P.O. Box 9117, Des Moines, Iowa, 50306-9117.

Plan members are required to contribute 3.90% of their annual covered salary, and the Utility is required to contribute 6.05% of annual covered payroll. Contribution requirements are established by state statute. The Utility's contributions to IPERS for the years ended December 31, 2008, 2007, and 2006, were \$59,013, \$54,873, and \$51,314, respectively, and each equal to the required contributions for each year.

NOTE 7 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The Utility is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts: theft, damage to and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees, and natural disasters. These risks are covered through the purchase of commercial insurance. The Utility assumes liability for any deductibles and claims in excess of coverage limitations. Settled claims from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

NOTE 8 - COMMITMENTS

The Utility has entered into a development agreement with the City of Maquoketa (City), the Maquoketa Industrial Development Assistance Service, Jackson County, and Family Dollar Services, Inc. The agreement calls for the City to make a grant to the Utility of \$1,300,000 to fund electric improvements to the industrial park on the south side of the City and to the property purchased by Family Dollar Services, Inc. The Utility will make an annual payment to the City each July 1 from 2002 through 2017 equal to the difference between the debt service payment due on bonds issued by the City to fund the electric improvements and certain other public improvements minus \$87,000. This budgeted annual payment is \$48,745. The actual amount paid for 2008 was \$32,289.

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2008

NOTE 9 – NEW GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD (GASB) STANDARDS

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued several statements not yet implemented by Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility. The statements which may affect the Utility are as follows:

Statement No. 43, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans*, issued April 2004, will be effective for the Utility for the year ending December 31, 2008. This statement establishes uniform financial reporting standards for other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plans and supersedes the interim guidance included in Statement No. 26. This statement affects reporting by administrators or trustees of OPEB plan assets or by employers or sponsors that include OPEB plan assets as trust or agency funds in their financial reports.

Statement No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, issued June 2004, will be effective for the Utility for the year ending December 31, 2009. This statement establishes standards for the measurement, recognition, and display of OPEB expense/expenditures and related liabilities (assets), note disclosures, and, if applicable, required supplementary information in the financial reports of state and local governmental employers.

The Utility's management is working with the auditors to determine the effect these Statements will have on the Utility's financial statements.

NOTE 10 – RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

As stated in Note 1, Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility is a component unit of the City of Maquoketa, Iowa. The City pays the Utility for electric service to City-owned facilities and also pays the Utility for labor performed by Utility employees on city property. For the year ended December 31, 2008, the utility received the following amounts from the City:

| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Electric service | \$ 262,299 |
| Labor | <u>16,321</u> |
| | <u>\$ 278,620</u> |

NOTE 11 – REVENUE NOTES COMPLIANCE

A provision of the revenue notes requires the utility to establish and adjust rates to produce gross revenues at least sufficient to pay the expenses of operations and maintenance of the utility and to leave a balance of net revenues sufficient to pay the annual installment of principal and interest on the notes. For the year ended December 31, 2008, the Utility produced revenues sufficient to meet this provision. The Utility will implemented rate increases during 2009 which management deemed necessary to prevent future noncompliance.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN CASH BALANCES
ACTUAL TO BUDGET
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
Year Ended December 31, 2008

| | | Budgeted Amounts | | Variance |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--|
| | Actual | Original Budget | Final Budget | Final to Actual Favorable (Unfavorable) |
| Receipts: | | | | |
| Use of money and property | \$ 120,509 | \$ 181,300 | \$ 127,532 | \$ (7,023) |
| Charges for services | 7,461,263 | 7,372,000 | 7,503,912 | (42,649) |
| Miscellaneous | 213,085 | 147,385 | 188,321 | 24,764 |
| Total receipts | <u>7,794,857</u> | <u>7,700,685</u> | <u>7,819,765</u> | <u>(24,908)</u> |
| Disbursements | <u>8,872,217</u> | <u>8,595,246</u> | <u>9,375,790</u> | <u>503,573</u> |
| Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements | <u>(1,077,360)</u> | <u>(894,561)</u> | <u>(1,556,025)</u> | <u>478,665</u> |
| Other financing sources (uses): | | | | |
| Bond Proceeds | 1,807,940 | - | 1,807,940 | - |
| Operating transfers in | 748,356 | 1,688,908 | 1,343,864 | (595,508) |
| Operating transfers out | (748,356) | (1,688,908) | (1,343,864) | 595,508 |
| Total other financing sources (uses) | <u>1,807,940</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1,807,940</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Net change in cash balances | 730,580 | (894,561) | 251,915 | 478,665 |
| Cash balance beginning of year | <u>4,297,429</u> | <u>3,938,052</u> | <u>4,297,429</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Cash balance end of year | <u>\$ 5,028,009</u> | <u>\$ 3,043,491</u> | <u>\$ 4,549,344</u> | <u>\$ 478,665</u> |
| Cash basis net assets | | | | |
| Unrestricted | <u>\$ 5,028,009</u> | <u>\$ 3,043,491</u> | <u>\$ 4,549,344</u> | <u>\$ 478,665</u> |

These financial statements should be read only in connection with
the accompanying summary of significant accounting policies
and notes to financial statements.

OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN CASH BALANCES
NONMAJOR ENTERPRISE FUNDS
As Of And For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

| | Capital Projects | Electric Surplus | Bond Reserve | Customer Deposits | Total |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------|------------|
| Operating receipts: | | | | | |
| Use of money and property | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 776 | \$ 776 |
| Miscellaneous | - | - | - | 33,370 | 33,370 |
| Total operating receipts | - | - | - | 34,146 | 34,146 |
| Operating disbursements: | | | | | |
| Customer deposits | - | - | - | 29,141 | 29,141 |
| Bond principal payment | - | - | 224,000 | - | 224,000 |
| WPPI deposit | 410,173 | - | - | - | 410,173 |
| Total disbursements | 410,173 | - | 224,000 | 29,141 | 663,314 |
| Excess of receipts over disbursements | (410,173) | - | (224,000) | 5,005 | (629,168) |
| Other financing sources (uses): | | | | | |
| Operating transfers in | 210,173 | - | - | - | 210,173 |
| Operating transfers out | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total other financing sources (uses) | 210,173 | - | - | - | 210,173 |
| Net change in cash balances | (200,000) | - | (224,000) | 5,005 | (418,995) |
| Cash balance beginning of year | 200,000 | 171,500 | 716,500 | 57,775 | 1,145,775 |
| Cash balance end of year | \$ - | \$ 171,500 | \$ 492,500 | \$ 62,780 | \$ 726,780 |
| Cash basis net assets | | | | | |
| Unrestricted | \$ - | \$ 171,500 | \$ 492,500 | \$ 62,780 | \$ 726,780 |

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
COMBINING SCHEDULE OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
GENERAL OPERATING FUND
As Of And For The Year Ended December 31, 2008

| | <u>Operating Account</u> | <u>Insurance Account</u> | <u>Vehicle Reserve- Distribution</u> |
|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Operating receipts: | | | |
| Charges for services: | | | |
| Residential | \$ 2,478,884 | \$ - | \$ - |
| Commercial | 3,126,100 | - | - |
| Security lights | 73,162 | - | - |
| Power sales | 1,783,117 | - | - |
| | <u>7,461,263</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Use of money and property: | | | |
| Interest on investments | 119,733 | - | - |
| Miscellaneous | 24,900 | - | - |
| | <u>144,633</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Miscellaneous: | | | |
| Refunds | 3,268 | - | - |
| Miscellaneous | 151,547 | - | - |
| | <u>154,815</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Total operating receipts | <u>7,760,711</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Operating disbursements: | | | |
| Administration | 1,191,668 | - | - |
| Power plant | 3,971,675 | - | - |
| Distribution | 957,607 | - | 119,175 |
| Total operating disbursements | <u>6,120,950</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>119,175</u> |
| Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements | <u>1,639,761</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>(119,175)</u> |
| Other financing sources (uses): | | | |
| Bond Proceeds | - | - | - |
| Transfers in (out): | | | |
| Operating account | - | 4,000 | 100,000 |
| Insurance account | (4,000) | - | - |
| Vehicle reserve distribution | (100,000) | - | - |
| Vehicle reserve plant | (13,000) | - | - |
| Power requirements account | (50,000) | - | - |
| Heavy equipment account | (15,000) | - | - |
| Sub I improvement account | (400,000) | - | - |
| Bond sinking account | (538,183) | - | - |
| Capital project fund | (210,173) | - | - |
| Total other financing sources (uses) | <u>(1,330,356)</u> | <u>4,000</u> | <u>100,000</u> |
| Net change in cash balances | <u>309,405</u> | <u>4,000</u> | <u>(19,175)</u> |
| Cash balance, beginning of year | <u>2,537,969</u> | <u>61,872</u> | <u>229,318</u> |
| Cash balance end of year | <u>\$ 2,847,374</u> | <u>\$ 65,872</u> | <u>\$ 210,143</u> |

Schedule 2

| Vehicle Reserve- Plant | Power Requirements Account | Heavy Equipment Account | Sub I Improvement Account | Fuel Tank Replacement | Total |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 2,478,884 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 3,126,100 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 73,162 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 1,783,117 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 7,461,263 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 119,733 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 24,900 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 144,633 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 3,268 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 151,547 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 154,815 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 7,760,711 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 1,191,668 |
| - | - | - | - | - | 3,971,675 |
| - | - | - | 1,364,611 | 9,092 | 2,450,485 |
| - | - | - | 1,364,611 | 9,092 | 7,613,828 |
| - | - | - | (1,364,611) | (9,092) | 146,883 |
| - | - | - | 1,807,940 | - | 1,807,940 |
| 13,000 | 50,000 | 15,000 | 400,000 | - | 582,000 |
| - | - | - | - | - | (4,000) |
| - | - | - | - | - | (100,000) |
| - | - | - | - | - | (13,000) |
| - | - | - | - | - | (50,000) |
| - | - | - | - | - | (15,000) |
| - | - | - | - | - | (400,000) |
| - | - | - | - | - | (538,183) |
| - | - | - | - | - | (210,173) |
| 13,000 | 50,000 | 15,000 | 2,207,940 | - | 1,059,584 |
| 13,000 | 50,000 | 15,000 | 843,329 | (9,092) | 1,206,467 |
| 35,956 | - | 30,723 | 22,356 | 9,092 | 2,927,286 |
| \$ 48,956 | \$ 50,000 | \$ 45,723 | \$ 865,685 | \$ - | \$ 4,133,753 |

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
SCHEDULE OF DISBURSEMENTS
OPERATING ACCOUNT
Year Ended December 31, 2008

Administration:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Salaries | \$ 222,066 |
| FICA and IPERS | 30,659 |
| Insurance | 280,987 |
| Sales and use tax | 264,830 |
| Franchise fee | 146,647 |
| Materials and repairs | 19,506 |
| Postage | 14,674 |
| Meeting expense | 3,588 |
| Dues | 21,725 |
| Supplies | 16,735 |
| Professional fees | 19,142 |
| Utilities | 8,590 |
| Advertising | 2,579 |
| Energy conservation | 13,490 |
| Debt service - Family Dollar | 32,289 |
| Economic development | 77,950 |
| Miscellaneous | 16,211 |
| Total administration | <u>1,191,668</u> |

Power Plant:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Salaries | 239,584 |
| FICA and IPERS | 33,010 |
| Purchased power | 3,308,996 |
| Insurance | 40,167 |
| Materials and repairs | 96,371 |
| Meeting expense | 454 |
| Supplies | 12,233 |
| Utilities | 7,403 |
| Natural gas | 105,153 |
| Fuel oil | 114,276 |
| Lubricants | 14,028 |
| Total power plant | <u>3,971,675</u> |

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
SCHEDULE OF DISBURSEMENTS
OPERATING ACCOUNT
Year Ended December 31, 2008

Distribution:

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Salaries | \$ 501,387 |
| FICA and IPERS | 69,183 |
| Contract labor | 30,693 |
| Materials and repairs | 144,082 |
| Meeting expense | 7,402 |
| Supplies | 12,553 |
| Utilities | 17,528 |
| Gas and oil | 20,887 |
| Tools | 11,241 |
| Conductor and poles | 29,308 |
| Mapping | 3,871 |
| Transformers | 70,147 |
| Meters | 35,234 |
| Miscellaneous | 4,091 |
| Total distribution | <u>957,607</u> |
| Total disbursements | <u>\$ 6,120,950</u> |

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
SCHEDULE OF INDEBTEDNESS
Year Ended December 31, 2008

| <u>Obligation</u> | <u>Date of Issuance</u> | <u>Interest Rates</u> | <u>Amount Originally Issued</u> | <u>Balance Beginning of Year</u> | <u>Issued During Year</u> | <u>Redeemed During Year</u> | <u>Balance End of Year</u> | <u>Interest Paid</u> | <u>Interest Due and Unpaid</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Electric revenue notes | November 1, 2001 | 4.15 - 4.8% | \$ 3,570,000 | \$ 1,610,000 | \$ - | \$ 1,610,000 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Electric revenue notes | May 1, 2002 | 4.15 - 4.8% | \$ 3,595,000 | 1,585,000 | - | 1,585,000 | - | - | - |
| Electric revenue notes | January 15, 2008 | 3.4 - 4.05 % | \$ 4,925,000 | - | 4,925,000 | 450,000 | 4,475,000 | 145,075 | - |
| | | | | <u>\$ 3,195,000</u> | <u>\$ 4,925,000</u> | <u>\$ 3,645,000</u> | <u>\$ 4,475,000</u> | <u>\$ 145,075</u> | <u>\$ -</u> |

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S
REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS AND ON INTERNAL
CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Utility Board of Trustees
Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility
Maquoketa, Iowa

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008 which collectively comprise the Utility's basic financial statements listed on the table of contents and have issued our report thereon dated March 17, 2009. Our report expressed an unqualified opinion on the financial statements which were prepared in conformity with an other comprehensive basis of accounting. We conducted our audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the effectiveness of Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in the internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be significant deficiencies and other deficiencies we consider to be material weaknesses.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliable in accordance with an other comprehensive basis of accounting such that there is more than a remote likelihood a misstatement of Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility's internal control. We consider the items described in Part I of the accompanying Schedule of Findings to be significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in a more than a remote likelihood a material misstatement of financial statements will not be prevented or detected by Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are considered to be material weaknesses. However, we believe the reportable conditions described above are not material weaknesses.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, non-compliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Comments involving statutory and other legal matters about the Utility's operations for the year ended December 31, 2008, are based exclusively on knowledge obtained from procedures performed during our audit of the financial statements of the Utility. Since our audit was based on tests and samples, not all transactions that might have had an effect on the comments were necessarily audited. The comments involving statutory and other legal matters are not intended to constitute legal interpretations of those statutes. There were no prior year statutory comments.

This report, a public record by law, is intended solely for the information and use of the officials and employees of Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility, the citizens of the City of Maquoketa and other parties to whom Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility may report. This report is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We would like to acknowledge the cooperation and assistance provided by the personnel of Maquoketa Municipal Electric Utility during the course of our audit. Should you have any questions concerning any of the above matters, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Miner, Gihon & Meade
Certified Public Accountants, PC

Maquoketa, Iowa
March 17, 2009

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
December 31, 2008

Part I: Findings Related to the Financial Statements:

REPORTABLE CONDITIONS

I-A-08 Segregation of Duties - One important aspect of internal control is the segregation of duties among employees to prevent an individual employee from handling duties which are incompatible. We noted that cash collections, bank deposits, and cash receipts postings are at times done by the same person. We also noted that the person who prepares the bank reconciliation is also an authorized check signer.

Recommendation - We realize segregation of duties is difficult with a limited number of office employees. However, the Utility should review its control procedures to obtain the maximum internal control possible under the circumstances.

Response - We continue to assess obtaining this goal with the current staff size.

Conclusion - Response accepted.

I-B-08 Controls Over Financial Statement Preparation - The Utility is required to maintain a system of controls over the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). We noted that the Utility does not maintain adequate internal controls over financial reporting to present financial statements in accordance with GAAP; and to ensure that they are free of material misstatements and include all disclosures as required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

Recommendation - The Utility should implement a comprehensive preparation and/or review procedure to ensure that the financial statements, including disclosures, are complete and accurate. Such procedures should be performed by properly trained individuals possessing a thorough understanding of applicable GAAP, GASB pronouncements, and knowledge of the Utility's activities and operations.

Response - We will assess obtaining this goal with the current staff size.

Conclusion - Response accepted.

MAQUOKETA MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
December 31, 2008

Part II: Other Findings Related to Statutory Reporting:

- II-A-08 Depositories - A resolution naming official depositories has been approved by the Utility Board. The maximum deposit amounts stated in the resolution were not exceeded during the year ended December 31, 2008.
- II-B-08 Certified Budget - Disbursements during the year ended December 31, 2008 did not exceed amounts budgeted.
- II-C-08 Questionable Disbursements - We noted no disbursements that we believe would not meet the requirements of public purpose as defined in an Attorney General's opinion dated April 25, 1979.
- II-D-08 Travel Expense - No disbursements of Utility money for travel expenses of spouses of utility officials or spouses of utility employees were noted.
- II-E-08 Business Transactions - We noted no business transactions between the Utility and Utility officials or employees that appear to represent a conflict of interest.
- II-F-08 Bond Coverage - Surety bond coverage of utility officials and employees is in accordance with statutory provisions. The amount of coverage should be reviewed annually to ensure that coverage is adequate for current operations.
- II-G-08 Board Minutes - No transactions were found that we believe should have been approved in the Board minutes but were not.
- II-H-08 Deposits and Investments - No instances of non-compliance with the deposit and investment provisions of Chapters 12B and 12C of the Code of Iowa and the Utility's investment policy were noted.
- II-I-08 Revenue Notes - During the year ended December 31, 2008, the Utility met the provision of the revenue notes that requires the net revenues of the Utility be sufficient to pay the expenses of operation and maintenance of the Utility and to leave a balance of net revenues sufficient to pay the principal and interest on the revenue notes.
- II-J-08 Telecommunication Services - No instances of non-compliance with Chapter 388.10 of the Code of Iowa were noted.